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Jamaica

Elections

- No date has yet been set for national elections.

- Last February when he announced his intention to hold elections - Manley said he would call an election immediately upon receiving the electoral commission's advice that new electoral system is in place.

- An independent electoral commission was set up under the direction of a respected and apolitical university professor, Gladstone Mills.

- The work of registering voters, called enumeration in Jamaica, started June 7 and was completed by July 20. This involved more than 6,000 enumerators who contacted each voter at his residence and recorded basic identifying data on an official form. These forms were collected from enumerators on a daily basis in each of the 60 constituencies. In return each voter was given a registration document to present at the polls in order to vote.

- The electoral commission is now computerizing the data obtained by the enumerators.

- Once this is done electoral lists will be printed and distributed to polling places for posting and review by general public.

- The election committee is training returning officers for the sixty constituencies.

- The Commission is expected to complete its work by the end of this month.

- When everything is in place Professor Mills will so inform the Prime Minister.

- After a call for elections there is a two to three week period for official campaigning.

- Elections would thus not appear possible before mid to late October.